

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A surgical clip, comprising:

a) a first arm;

b) a second arm substantially parallel to said first arm;

c) a bridge connecting said first and second arms to form a substantially static U-shaped structure retaining the same initial shape prior to, throughout, and subsequent to application;

d) at least one deformable retainer extending from one end of said arms in a direction, wherein said retainer has a length in said direction of at least approximately Π times the distance between the arms when the arms are substantially parallel.

2. (original) A surgical clip according to claim 1, wherein:

said first arm has a first thickness and said retainer has a second thickness smaller than said first thickness.

3. (previously amended) A surgical clip according to claim 1, wherein:

said at least one deformable retainer is a pair of deformable retainers, one extending from each of said first and second arms, both retainers having a sharp tip and both retainers being approximately the same length.

4. (original) A surgical clip according to claim 1, wherein:

said retainer has a sharp tip.

5. (original) A surgical clip according to claim 1, wherein:

said retainer is decouplable from said one of said arms.

6. (original) A surgical clip according to claim 5, wherein:

said retainer is removably coupled to said arms by a friction fit.

7. (previously amended) A surgical clip according to claim 2, wherein:

said at least one deformable retainer is a pair of deformable retainers, one extending from each of said first and second arms, both retainers having a sharp tip and both retainers being approximately the same length.

8. (previously amended) A surgical clip according to claim 7, wherein:

each of said retainers is decouplable from said arms.

9. (previously amended) A surgical clip according to claim 8, wherein:

each of said retainers is removably coupled to said arms by friction fits.

10. (original) A surgical clip according to claim 9, wherein:

each of said arms includes an end portion defining a slot, and each of said deformable retainers includes a proximal portion which has a friction fit with a respective slot.

11-16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) A kit, comprising:

a) at least one surgical clip; and

b) an applier for applying said at least one surgical clip to tissue, wherein said at least one surgical clip comprises a first arm, a second arm substantially parallel to said first arm, a bridge connecting said first and second arms to form a substantially static U-shaped structure retaining the same initial shape prior to, throughout, and subsequent to application, and at least one deformable retainer extending from one of said arms, wherein said retainer has a length of at least approximately Π times the distance between the arms when the arms are substantially parallel.

18. (previously amended) A kit according to claim 17, wherein:

said at least one surgical clip is a plurality of surgical clips.

19-20. (canceled)

21. (currently amended) A surgical clip, comprising:

a first arm;

a second arm substantially parallel to said first arm;

a bridge connecting said first and second arms to form a substantially static U-shaped structure with said first and second arms being substantially parallel to one

another and retaining the same initial shape prior to, throughout, and subsequent to application;

at least one deformable retainer extending from one end of said arms in a direction, said retainer having a length in said direction equal to a multiple of a distance between said arms, said multiple being greater than 2.5.

22. (currently amended) A surgical clip, comprising:

a first arm;

a second arm substantially parallel to said first arm;

a bridge connecting said first and second arms to form a substantially static U-shaped structure retaining the same initial shape prior to, throughout, and subsequent to application; and

at least one deformable retainer extending from one of said arms and having a deformable portion, said deformable portion of said retainer having a length of at least approximately Π times the distance between said arms when said arms are substantially parallel.

23. (original) A surgical clip according to claim 22, wherein said first arm has a first thickness and said retainer has a second thickness smaller than said first thickness.

24. (previously amended) A surgical clip according to claim 22, wherein said retainer is a pair of deformable retainers, one extending from each of said first and second arms, both retainers having a sharp tip and both retainers being approximately the same length.

25. (original) A surgical clip according to claim 22, wherein said retainer has a sharp tip.

26. (original) A surgical clip according to claim 22, wherein said retainer is decouplable from said one of said arms.

27. (original) A surgical clip according to 26, wherein said retainer is removably coupled to said arms by a friction fit.

28. (previously amended) A surgical clip according to claim 23, wherein said deformable retainer is a pair of deformable retainers, one extending from each of said first and second arms, both retainers having a sharp tip and both retainers being approximately the same length.

29. (previously amended) A surgical clip according to claim 28, wherein each of said retainers is decouplable from said arms.

30. (previously amended) A surgical clip according to claim 29, wherein each of said retainers is removably coupled to said arms by friction fits.

31. (original) A surgical clip according to claim 30, wherein each of said arms includes an end portion defining a slot, and each of said deformable retainers includes a proximal portion having a friction fit with respective slot.

32. (currently amended) A surgical clip, comprising:

a first arm;

a second arm substantially parallel to said first arm;

a bridge connecting said first and second arms to form a substantially static U-shaped structure with said first and second arms being substantially parallel to one another and retaining the same initial shape prior to, throughout, and subsequent to application and being physically separated from one another when substantially parallel to one another ~~prior to, throughout, and subsequent to application~~; and

at least one deformable retainer extending from one end of said arms in a direction, said retainer having a length in said direction equal to a multiple of a distance between said arms, said multiple being greater than 2.5.